

Employees, Volunteers, Community Partners, and Friends

# NEWSLETTER



## Thank You Wells Fargo, Mungo Homes, and FJJ Phase One Completed of Second Habitat House



On Monday, September 9th, DJJ began construction of our second Habitat for Humanity House at the Broad River Road Complex in Columbia. This time, valuable help to support the project came from Wells Fargo Bank and Mungo Homes, who provided dozens of volunteers and funding for the project.

"Our collaborating partners on this project have opened up unprecedented opportunities for our young people to gain carpentry skills that could lead to future employment," said DJJ Director Margaret H. Barber. "With Wells Fargo and Mungo Homes joining forces with us, it is a win-win for our young people who are becoming job ready, and a family who will become homeowners."

"We are pleased to partner with and support the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice, the Central South Carolina Habitat for Humanity and the Friends of Juvenile Justice," said Holt Chetwood, market president for Wells Fargo Bank in Columbia. "It's rewarding for our Wells Fargo team to work with these groups and further the dream of homeownership for deserving families, while at the

same time teaching valuable job skills to at-risk youth in our community. This project connects directly with our vision and values. At Wells Fargo, we believe we're responsible for promoting the long-term economic prosperity and quality of life for everyone in our communities. If they prosper, so do we."

The build took place over the course of five days, as volunteers and youth worked together building the home flooring, raising the walls, putting in doors and windows, and putting on the roof and vinyl siding.

"It's been wonderful working with the kids," said Wells Fargo volunteer Rosemary Bracey. "It's such a great opportunity to give back to the community and help our young people."

*"It's such a great opportunity to give back to the community and help our young people."*

—Wells Fargo Volunteer

While it is a restorative effort to help youth give back to the community, there is also an important job training element for our young people at DJJ—something that attracted supporter Mungo Homes to the project.

Steven Mungo, CEO of Mungo Homes, said, "Like Habitat, our company strives to build homes, communities, and hope. We are especially pleased to provide an opportunity for young people to give back to their community while gaining valuable construction skills."

Mungo added: "The chance to build a home from the ground up will offer a visible, transformational experience for youth who rarely have an opportunity to see tangible and positive results for their efforts. Being a part of the build team will provide leadership

development and valuable job skills that can lead to a promising future."

With the help of volunteers and donors like Wells Fargo and Mungo Homes, there is little doubt that the tradition of building Habitat homes at DJJ has a promising future too.

### **Generations Alternative Program, Learning to Give Back Through Community Service**

In order for residents of the Generations Alternative Program to return to the community as productive and healthy citizens, a great deal of effort is placed on helping them to develop empathy, an understanding of how their actions impact others.

Giving back to the community has had positive impact on youth in the program, which serves intensive and intermediate level adolescent males who have been involved in sexually inappropriate behaviors.

Youth regularly volunteers at a local soup kitchen that offers breakfast to the homeless. In addition, a partnership has been formed with the Julie Valentine Center (formerly the Greenville Rape Crisis and Child Abuse Center). The residents volunteer each month, cutting the grass and doing general landscaping so that the outside of the facility is warm and welcoming to those needing services. Also, they have

volunteered at local parks, where they made the hiking trails and other areas more accessible and safe for community use.

Through each volunteer opportunity, the residents are able to help someone else without expecting anything in return. Volunteering also provides an opportunity for the residents to learn how to involve themselves in their community in a prosocial manner. The residents have been able to see the impact of their positive efforts on the community and how appreciative others are of their service, therefore, creating a feeling of pride and accomplishment.

### **AMIKid Beaufort Teams With United Way of the Lowcountry**



For more than two decades, AMIkids Beaufort has partnered with the United Way of the Lowcountry during the annual giving campaign. During the campaign, youth at AMIkids have participated in speaking engagements for various businesses in the Lowcountry and surrounding areas, as their way of contributing to campaign efforts.

This summer, youth at AMIkids Beaufort had the opportunity to enhance their United Way collaboration and leave a tremendous impact on a local United Way family – an experience that will not be forgotten by anyone involved. The family, a 70-year-old woman and her disabled son were unable to perform the upkeep on their home and the property fell into despair. With coordination from the United Way, youth from AMIkids stepped in and helped.

The youth not only earned community service hours, but they were incredibly touched by the story of the family and worked tirelessly for several days providing maintenance on the house and landscaping the yard. Jesse Scott of AMIkids staff said, "It was a lot of work and the boys were initially discouraged at the sight of the huge task but once they understood the need of the family and started the project, they wanted to do as much as possible to help." Scott added, "The incredible desire to change the lives of people they had just met is a great testament to the work the boys have been doing to improve themselves."

 DJJ South Carolina  
DEPARTMENT OF  
JUVENILE JUSTICE

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## NEWSLETTER

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## Union County Day With Governor Haley



Aiken County Office staff with Governor Nikki Haley at Union County Day festivities left to right: Nikki Booker, Ashley Campbell, Governor Haley, and Kathy Youngblood.

DJJ's Union County Office was honored to participate in the Union County Back to School Bash sponsored by Governor Nikki Haley's Original Six Foundation on Saturday, August 10. The Back to School Bash came together wonderfully with the aid of hundreds of community volunteers and sponsors. More than 700 Union County residents attended the event on the University of South Carolina Union Campus

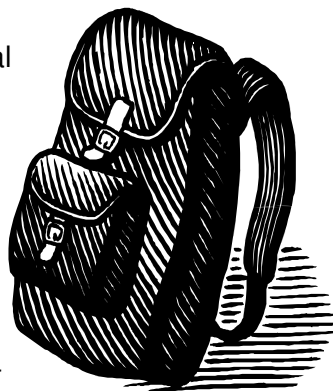
The event included free health screenings, a job fair, school supply giveaway, a baby shower for expectant mothers, and entertainment provided by local groups. The goal of the day was to bring awareness to Union County's unemployment rate and link residents with companies that had job openings. Governor Haley addressed the citizens promising to continue to encourage economic growth for Union County.

It was an honor for all of the Union County Office staff to attend the event and to meet with Governor Haley.

## DJJ Back To School Bash

DJJ recently hosted its annual Back to School Bash at the Birchwood Chapel and Gymnasium. The event was filled with fun, fellowship and great food for our youth before starting the new school year.

Volunteers, youth, staff and a visiting group of soldiers from Fort Jackson Army Base came out to participate as they assisted the youth in a variety of activities and games. Volunteers also donated bookbags filled with school supplies for DJJ's youth.



LaToya Reed, director of Volunteer Services, said DJJ faith based volunteers also were instrumental in the success of the Back to School Bash. "I am always excited to have our faith based volunteers give of their time and resources to this event and others." "We could not have taken on this tremendous project without our volunteers. We are so thankful to have such great volunteers. We can always count on them to be available for our youth, and to do a great job as volunteers."

## Vacation Bible School with Volunteers of Rock of Ages Ministry



Chaplain Sherry Highbaugh (left) and Chaplain James Stokes (extreme right) with Rock of Ages volunteers.

This was the tenth year that Rock of Ages Ministry has facilitated Vacation Bible School (VBS) at the Midlands Evaluation Center and the Juvenile Detention Center. VBS was held August 3-6, with the theme, "Character Under Construction."

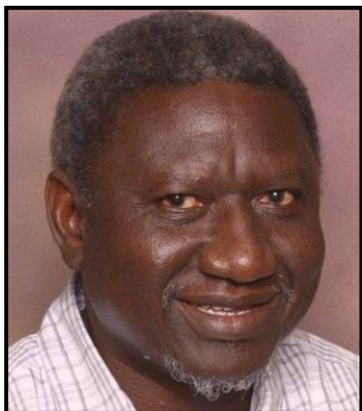
There were nine solid character education classes going on simultaneously Saturday through Tuesday, with three hours of class instruction and one hour of worship each day.

Additionally, there were power point presentations along with teaching and religious sermons that captured the attention of the youth. The week made a positive difference in the lives of our young people, said Chaplain James Stokes.

## Upcoming Events

October 22nd, 2013  
Grand Opening of the Job Readiness  
Training Center (JRTC) in Columbia

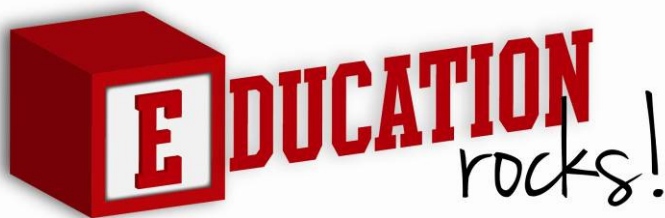
## Maxwell Poswal Named DJJ District Teacher of the Year



Dr. Maxwell Poswal is the 2013-2014 District Teacher of the Year for the DJJ School District.

Poswal is a science teacher at Birchwood School, where he teaches Biology to high school students. He holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Agricultural Sciences from Ahmadu Bello University, and a Ph.D. in Plant Pathology from Texas A & M University. He has over 20 years of expertise and experience in research, teaching and community service, at higher education levels, in Botswana, Nigeria, South Africa, Norway, and the United States.

In addition to his higher education experiences, he has over 12 years of teaching at-risk high school students in the inner city of Chicago and currently at DJJ.



Dr. Poswal is of the opinion that all learners can learn and comprehend content materials, irrespective of their educational backgrounds. A unique aspect of his teaching embraces the adoption and teaching of the principle of "high expectations" and "high order thinking," as it empowers learners to achieve at or beyond their perceived potential. Every student that comes into his classroom knows that he/she will be expected to put in his/her best during the learning process. One of his classroom adages is: "Doing your best means that you never stop trying." Creating an environment that encourages high level inquiry

and hands-on learning is a teaching strategy he deploys and employs in his science classes.

"I am grateful to have been provided the opportunity to proudly serve DJJ, and more specifically in advancing the overall objectives of the Division of Education, at the Detention Center (where I started in 2005), Birchwood Middle and High School, Willow Lane School, with the JROTC (Echo and Foxtrot), Santee and the STAR program. This gave me the added exposure to the diverse programs and projects at the Broad River Road complex," said Dr. Poswal.

DJJ's school district also recognizes its school-level 2013-2014 Teachers of the Year including:

Paul Deligt, Juvenile Detention Center School  
Mary Kay Lawley, Coastal Evaluation Center School  
Karen Herring, Midlands Evaluation Center School,  
and Robert Jones, Upstate Evaluation Center School.

### "Summer Breeze" Summer Camp at the Broad River Road Complex

There was a great deal of excitement buzzing around DJJ as the youth explored new horizons during their recent summer camp. Having a respite from school work, books and studies during the weeks of July 25-August 7, the students filled their time with the activities of camp "Summer Breeze."

During the session, staff and volunteers assisted with a variety of activities and events including basketball camp, agility clinic, and special interest classes in upholstery, ethics, jewelry making, disc jockey (DJ), line dancing, and fruit decorating. Based on comments from the students, some learned a lot about themselves while others discovered hidden gifts and talents.

Graduation for Toastmaster participants also was held during summer camp. During 10 weeks of training, a team of youth honed their public speaking skills. Four of the students graduated from the program.

"Our 2013 summer camp was very successful," said Tyrone Brown, DJJ activity therapists. "This was a team effort that would not be possible without all the volunteers who donated their time and resources for this event. We received approximately \$4,000 in donations of food, goods and services."



## Special Summer Programs at the Coastal Evaluation Center

**On Saturday, July 1,** Cross Walk Ministries USA, Inc., of McDonough, Ga., performed a concert and theatrical production with the theme, "Get out of Jail ... Free!" for youth at the Coastal Evaluation Center.

**For the first time,** the CEC held a summer Vacation Bible School (VBS), which was sponsored by the Seventh Episcopal District of the AME Church/Missionary Society. The theme, 'ADS,' was composed from the message, "All Messed Up, Distractions and Spiritual Habits."



Members of Cross Walk Ministries

From beginning to end, the event reflected a team effort among staff and youth. Staff encouraged youth to use their creative talents to design attractive posters and thank you "wall" cards, for which the volunteers expressed grateful appreciation. The staff at CEC was excited to have 100 percent youth participation three of the four days of VBS. Each youth received a certificate of achievement at the completion of the three days.

As a finale to VBS, the AME Missionary Society hosted a "Sing-A-Long" program and luncheon for the youth and staff. Featured guest speakers were Dr. Shirley Cason-Reed, international president, AME Churches, Washington, DC, other AME Diocese officials, and a praise dancer, musician and choir leader.



Members of Abide Ministries

**Recently, Abide Ministries,** hosted a concert (with a live band) and lunch. The band's performance was awesome, and testimonies from two band members were poignant.

**CEC's annual "Back to School Jamboree"** hosted by Summerville Miracle Revival, a regular volunteer team in the Center's Spiritual Development Program, was held Saturday, August 17. Several young men and women, along with their Pastor, performed a drama (impromptu) on the subject of education.

Chaplain Pandora Mikell described CEC summer programs as enjoyable, motivational, awesome!

## G.R.E.A.T. days ahead for South Carolina



Left to right, Courtney Phillips, Marketta Jeter, Melody Lawson, Randall Woods, Carrice Watkins, Randall Greene, Nathan Chaplin Jr., Robert Snipes, Sylvia Jones, Harold Mayes, Shannon Wright, Sarah Garlock, Ulysses Collins Jr., Angel Reed, Jackie Conyers, Lori Hernandez, Jennifer Shannon, Fredrick Stephens, James White, and Kenneth Greene. Not pictured are Angela Hugie, Steven Gault and Kirsten Adberhalden.

Twenty-three DJJ staff members graduated in August from the Gang Resistance Education And Training (G.R.E.A.T.) national training course, which was held at the Bill Rogers Community Connections Center. The training engaged the expertise of 17 state and national law enforcement partners who served as trainers and coaches for the course, including persons from state agencies, sheriffs and police departments, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives-ATF).

The training participants are now prepared to teach the G.R.E.A.T. curriculum to South Carolina elementary and middle school students around the state. G.R.E.A.T is currently offered in 20 counties: Allendale, Beaufort, Charleston, Cherokee, Clarendon, Colleton, Darlington, Greenville, Hampton, Lancaster, Lexington, Newberry, Orangeburg, Richland, Spartanburg, Sumter, Oconee, Union, Williamsburg, and York counties.

The gang and violence prevention program is built around a school-based, law enforcement officer-instructed classroom course of study, and is designed to steer young people away from delinquency, youth violence, and gang membership. Whereas, probation officers are teaching G.R.E.A.T. throughout the country, DJJ is unique in providing the program in classrooms on a statewide basis. Program topics include avoiding gangs, violence, drugs, and crime, community responsibility, setting goals, good decision making, effective communication, empathy for others, influences of peer pressure, anger management, the consequences of fighting, and conflict resolution.

### Charleston County Library Donates Copies of Novel to Coastal Evaluation Center



The Charleston County Public Library (CCPL) recently donated 100 copies of the novel *Divergent* to the Coastal Evaluation Center (CEC) in Ridgville.

The donation, part of the CCPL's "OneBook" program, is meant to ensure that every child at CEC has a copy of the novel. CEC students will be reading it throughout the month of October.

*Divergent*, by Veronica Roth, is a Young Adult novel set in a futuristic dystopian Chicago, and follows a sixteen-year-old girl's quest for acceptance. It has often been compared to the popular Young Adult "Hunger Games" series in quality, setting, and popularity among teens.

### DJJ Youth Building Urns for Unclaimed Veterans

Students in DJJ's Youth Industries Program are building burial urns for unclaimed veterans in South Carolina, and recently participated in an internment ceremony for six of those veterans, along with the

Chapin Legionnaires Post 193 and other veteran services organizations, under the Missing in America Project (MIAP).



DJJ student accepting a flag during the internment ceremony

Several DJJ JROTC students attended the service and one youth accepted an American Flag from Post 193 in honor of one of the veterans.

"Our young people may not ever know what it is to serve their country through military duty, but they have demonstrated the ability to give back in other ways, and building the urns is one example," said Director Margaret H. Barber. "Having one of our youth accept the American flag during a military service gives them an important memory that they will forever cherish."

### DJJ Celebrates 10 Years of Building Chairs With Chairs4Charity Building Blitz



26 of the 30 Adirondack chairs produced by the Chairs4Charity Blitz

On Friday, August 16, 2013, DJJ's Young Craftsmen's Club volunteers in partnership with the South Carolina Baptist Campers on Mission, and the South Carolina Woman's Missionary Union, concluded a week-long building blitz of adirondack chairs. Faith-based volunteers and college students from across the state worked alongside DJJ youth in building 30 chairs during the week.

The mission project, "Chairs4Charity" building blitz also commemorated the 10th anniversary of volunteers working with young people at DJJ in building Adirondack chairs, footstools, and tea tables in DJJ's after school Young Craftsmen's Program.



The building of adirondack chairs has been a mainstay of DJJ's efforts to engage our young people in developing carpentry skills for future job opportunities. In addition to adirondack chairs, the Young Craftsmen's Club has more recently added footstools and tea tables to their collection.

While items built by youth in the Young Craftsmen's Club are usually sold in DJJ's "Store of Hope" on Broad River Road, several of the chairs built during the Chairs4Charity Blitz were donated to four nonprofit organizations that were selected by the youth who helped to build the chairs.

## Career Development



[from left to right] Melody Lawson, Randall Woods, Larry Harrison

### Lieutenant Randall Woods

Officer Randall Woods, center, is pinned by Cpt. Melody Lawson, left, and Major Larry Harrison as he is promoted from Sergeant to Lieutenant.



DHEC presents DJJ's Steve Pullie and Mike Harrison with an award as part of its Smart Business Recycling Program—for helping disabled clients at the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department improve waste reduction and recycling.

## DJJ's "Unsung Heroes"



[from left to right] Beth Mackinem, Mike Gannon, Pamela Robison, Lesa Timmerman

### Pamela Robinson

Pamela D. Robertson, director of the University of South Carolina School of Law Pro-Bono Program, was honored as an Unsung Hero, for her dedication to the development and editing of the curriculum for **Choices**, a program that is taught in communities around the state. The **Choices** curriculum teaches young people to make positive decisions in their lives to help them avoid repeating criminal behaviors and remain crime-free. She was nominated by Beth Mackinem, deputy director for the Division of Community Services.



[from Left to Right] Meda Cobb, Randall Woods, Larry Harrison, Michele Fisher, Kenneth Moses

### Randall Woods, Larry Harrison, James Tanner, Michele Fisher

Michele Fisher, Larry Harrison, James Tanner, and Randall Woods were recognized as Unsung Heroes for their travel in support of Max, the DJJ student who competed in SkillsUSA, in Kansas City, Mo. Max won a silver medal after competing in the post-secondary Chapter Display category. Fisher, Harrison, Tanner (not pictured), and Woods were honored to accompany Max and to share this tremendous experience with him. Tanner, a Birchwood School teacher, was Max's primary instructor for the project.

They were nominated by Kenneth Moses, deputy director for the Division of Rehabilitative Services.



[from left to right] Kenneth Moses, Randall Woods, Velvet McGowan, Joseph McDaniel, Lowell Aiken, Eugene Coleman, Shawn Tucker

### **Randall Woods, Lowell Aiken, Joseph McDaniel, Eugene Coleman and Shawn Tucker**

Randall Woods, Lowell Aiken, Joseph McDaniel, Eugene Coleman and Shawn Tucker, all members of DJJ's security team, were recognized as Unsung Heroes for their work beyond the realm of security, yet the honor still involves DJJ youth. Aiken, McDaniel, Coleman, and Tucker have been instrumental in teaching our young people proper ground maintenance and actively helping to landscape grounds on the Broad River Road Complex.



[From left to right] Kenneth Moses, Swanzetta Young, Velvet McGowan

### **Swanzetta Young**

Swanzetta Young is a DJJ Unsung Hero. Ms. Young, a member of DJJ's security staff, was nominated for the Unsung Hero award because of her quick reactions during an emergency situation involving a DJJ youth. Ms. Young's involvement prevented a youth from being seriously injured, yet she required sutures herself. She was nominated by Kenneth Moses, deputy director for the Division of Rehabilitative Services.



## Promotions & Announcements



**Andy Broughton** has been appointed as the new agency Deputy Chief of Security and Operations.

**Ashley Campbell** has been named the new Director of the Union County DJJ office.

**Ray Cavanagh** has been appointed as the new agency Inspector General

**Clarissa Coney** has been hired as a program assistant in the Office of Human Resources.

**David K. Fuller** has been named as the new principal of Birchwood School.

**Tiffany Howard** has been hired in the Classification and Compensation area of the Office of Human Resources.

**Angela Outing** has been hired in the EPMS management area of the Office of Human Resources.

**Jennifer Loschiavo** has been named the Medicaid Administrator for the Office of Compliance and Medicaid.

**Velvet McGowan** has been appointed as the agency's new state-wide Performance-based Standards (PbS) Director.

**Allex Washington** has been named the new Director of the Richland County DJJ office.

**Craig Wheatley** has been hired as the Director of Research and Statistics.